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***IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE***

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In re application of: Kineo MATSUI

Application No.: 09/889,913

Int'l Filing Date: January 24, 2000

Title: METHOD OF EMBEDDING DIGITAL  
WATERMARK, METHOD OF  
DECODING, AND APPARATUS  
ACTUALIZING THE METHODS

Attorney Docket No.:

MES1P043/PF18E231/3-PPS

Examiner: Unassigned

Group: 2643

Confirmation No. 3027

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
37 CFR §§1.56 AND 1.97(b)**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The references listed in the attached PTO Form 1449, copies of which are attached, may be material to examination of the above-identified patent application. Applicants submit these references in compliance with their duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97. The Examiner is requested to make these references of official record in this application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, that additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist, or that these references indeed constitute prior art.

This Information Disclosure Statement is: (i) filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the above-referenced application, (ii) believed to be filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or (iii) believed to be filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under §1.114. Accordingly, it is believed that no fees are due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, if it is determined that any fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 500388 (Order No. MES1P043).

Respectfully submitted,

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/msh/

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